



NEWSLETTER

HELLO AUTUMN 2

As we head into the festive season, we have an exciting and enriching half term planned, full of storytelling, celebrations, creativity, and hands-on learning across all areas of the curriculum.

TOPIC

This half term's weekly topics focus on celebrations and traditions, exploring how people mark special occasions such as birthdays and Christmas. Through stories, role play, and creative activities, children will reflect on what makes these events meaningful to them and others.

AT HOME

We value the home-school partnership and our open-door policy with families. We appreciate your continued support and the valuable work that can take place in the home to support school...

- Read daily with your child.
- Please continue to ensure all items are labelled.
- Continue to encourage independence.

Continue to engage in conversation with the children about what they are doing in school.

CORE TEXTS

Little Glow
Kipper's Birthday
Stick Man
The Jolly Christmas Postman
The Christmas Pine
The First Christmas

KEY DATES

We have some exciting events planned this term:

- 5th Nov – Bonfire Night & EYFS Forest School Taster
- 6th Nov – School Photos
- 11th Nov – Remembrance Day
- 11th & 12th Nov – Parents' Evenings
- 5th Dec – Christingle Service at Berrow Church
- 10th Dec – Open Class (2:45–3:15pm)
- 11th Dec – EYFS Christmas Taster Day
- 12th Dec – Final Celebration Worship of the term
- 18th Dec – Nativity Performance
- 19th Dec – Christmas Dinner & Party Day



Religious Education

Reception children will be learning about the Nativity story and why Christmas is important to Christians. They'll explore key characters such as Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the wise men, and discover that Christians believe Jesus is special because he is both God and human (incarnation). Through stories, songs, role play, and creative activities, children will enjoy retelling the story and reflecting on their own special celebrations.

Drawing Club

In Drawing Club, Reception will explore classic stories and cartoons from the past. Through rich vocabulary, imaginative storytelling, and expressive drawing, children will bring characters and settings to life while developing early writing skills. These timeless tales will inspire curiosity about how stories have changed over time.

Literacy

Preschool children will enjoy a selection of engaging texts including Lulu Loves the Library, Where's Lenny?, and Monster Clothes. These stories will support the development of language, listening, and early comprehension skills, and will inspire mark-making, role play, and group discussion.

Maths


In Reception, children will deepen their understanding of numbers 1 to 5, explore shapes with four sides, and begin comparing mass and capacity. The 'Alive in 5' unit will encourage counting, number bonds, and problem-solving through fun, practical activities.

Preschool children will explore pattern, counting, and comparison. They will create their own patterns, count carefully to 5, and begin to match, sort, and compare objects by size, shape, and quantity—laying strong foundations for early mathematical thinking.

Phonics

Reception children will continue building confidence with Phase 2 sounds (v, w, x, y, z, qu, ch, sh, th, ng, nk) and read words with -s endings (e.g. hats, sits, bags). They'll also learn tricky words like has, his, her, he, she, we, me, be, go, no, to, into, of.

Later this term, we'll begin Phase 3, introducing vowel digraphs like ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or and new tricky words such as was, you, they.



In Preschool, children will continue developing early phonics skills by learning the sounds p, i, n, m, d, g, and o, through songs, stories, and play-based activities.



Music

All children will explore songs and rhythms linked to celebrations such as Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas. They will listen for steady beats, explore pace and rhythm, and copy simple patterns. Traditional and festive songs, along with Nativity rehearsals, will help children build confidence in singing and performing.

Computing

Reception children will begin developing early computing skills by following and creating simple instructions and algorithms. Linked to our seasonal themes Awesome Autumn and Winter Warmers, they will sequence steps to make autumn garlands, navigate a leaf labyrinth, and follow recipes like pumpkin soup. In winter, they'll give instructions to build igloos, feed the birds, and design scarves for snowmen.

Swimming

Reception children will continue their weekly swimming lessons on Tuesdays. These sessions support the development of water confidence, basic swimming strokes, and water safety awareness, all in a fun and supportive environment.

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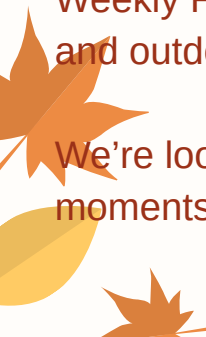
This term, children will learn how to care for the people and world around them. Topics include looking after special people and friends, being helpful at home and in class, and caring for the environment. Towards the end of term, children will begin to explore looking after money and why it's important to make good choices.

Understanding the World

Children will explore key themes including Remembrance Sunday, transport past and present, and seasonal change. Using the story Handa's Surprise, we will look at similarities and differences between cultures. The term will end with Christmas around the world and reflections on celebrations and traditions from our families and communities.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will explore creativity through seasonal and celebration-themed activities, including Bonfire Night artwork, Christmas cards and decorations, and festive role play. Weekly Forest School sessions will offer opportunities for imaginative play, natural art, and outdoor exploration.



We're looking forward to a joyful half term full of learning, celebration, and memorable moments!

The EYFS Team